

AMENDMENT AND PRESENTATION OF CLAIMS

Please replace all prior claims in the present application with the following claims, in which claims 72 and 73 are being canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 15 through 18, 20 through 33, 35 through 48, and 50 through 60 have been amended, and new claims 74 through 77 have been added.

1 - 14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising ~~a processor and a memory storing executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus to at least perform the following:~~

at least one processor; and

at least one memory including computer program code for one or more programs,

the at least one memory and the computer program code configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus to perform at least the following,

determine to store ~~storing~~, in the memory, at least one piece of pre-broadcast content, the pre-broadcast content being stored before a scheduled time for broadcast of the same at least one piece of content by a content source, the scheduled time specified by a schedule;

determine to access ~~accessing~~ at least one piece of pre-broadcast content from the memory no sooner than the scheduled time for broadcast of the same at least one piece of content;

receive live broadcast of the same at least one piece of content from the content source; and

determine to present ~~presenting~~ the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content consistent with the scheduled time for broadcast of the same at least one piece of content by the content source.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein ~~the memory stores executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus~~ is further caused to further perform the following:

determine to synchronize ~~synchronizing~~ the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content with the same at least one piece of content broadcast by the content source, wherein ~~presenting~~ the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content ~~comprises~~ presenting is presented as the synchronized at least one piece of pre-broadcast content.

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein ~~storing at least one piece of pre-broadcast content comprises storing~~ at least one piece of pre-broadcast content is stored before the content source broadcasts the same at least one piece of content.

18. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein ~~the memory stores executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus~~ is further caused to further perform the following:

~~receiving~~ receive at least one piece of content maintained by a continuity server of a content source, wherein ~~storing at least one piece of pre-broadcast content comprises storing~~ the received at least one piece of content is stored as the at least one piece of pre-broadcast content.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 18, wherein ~~receiving the~~ at least one piece of content ~~comprises~~ is received by receiving an encoded at least one piece of

content and decoding the encoded at least one piece of content, the respective at least one piece of content having been at least one of encoded or transcoded at the content source.

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein the schedule also specifies at least one scheduled time for broadcast of at least one piece of live broadcast content by the content source, wherein ~~the memory stores executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus~~ is further caused to further perform the following:

~~receiving~~ receive at least one piece of live broadcast content when a current time matches the scheduled time for broadcast of the respective at least one piece of live broadcast content, and

wherein ~~accessing the~~ at least one piece of pre-broadcast content ~~comprises~~ is accessed by accessing at least one of at least one piece of pre-broadcast content stored in the memory or at least one piece of live broadcast content received at the apparatus, and wherein ~~presenting the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content comprises~~ is presented by presenting at least one of the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content or the accessed at least one piece of live broadcast content.

22. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein ~~the memory stores executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus~~ is further caused to further perform the following:

determine to release ~~releasing~~ each piece of pre-broadcast content when a current time of the apparatus matches the scheduled time for broadcast of the same piece of content by the content source,

wherein ~~accessing at least one piece of pre-broadcast content comprises~~ accessing at least one released piece of pre-broadcast content is accessed.

23. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 22, wherein the content source broadcasts the same at least one piece of content when a current time of the content source matches the at least one scheduled time, and wherein ~~the memory stores executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus~~ is further caused to further perform the following:

determine to synchronize ~~synchronizing~~ the current time of the apparatus with the current time of the content source.

24. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 22, wherein ~~the memory stores executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus~~ is further caused to further perform the following:

determine to expire ~~expiring~~ each released piece of pre-broadcast content when the current time is subsequent to the scheduled time; and

determine to maintain ~~maintaining~~, in the memory of the apparatus, at least one expired piece of pre-broadcast content.

25. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 22, wherein ~~the memory stores executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus~~ is further caused to further perform the following:

determine to expire ~~expiring~~ each released piece of pre-broadcast content when the current time is subsequent to the scheduled time; and

~~determine to delete~~ deleting, from the memory of the apparatus, at least one expired piece of pre-broadcast content.

26. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 25, wherein ~~the memory stores executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus is further caused~~ to further perform the following:

~~determine to maintain~~ maintaining at least one expired piece of pre-broadcast content in the memory of the apparatus, and wherein ~~deleting the~~ at least one expired piece of pre-broadcast content ~~comprises~~ is deleted by overwriting at least one expired piece of pre-broadcast content with at least one subsequent piece of pre-broadcast content.

27. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein ~~storing the~~ at least one piece of pre-broadcast content further ~~comprises storing~~ is stored with the schedule.

28. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 27, wherein the schedule includes at least one slot specifying broadcast of a selectable piece of pre-broadcast content at a respective scheduled time, wherein ~~the memory stores executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus~~ is further caused to further perform the following:

~~receiving~~ receive a selection of at least one piece of pre-broadcast content for the at least one slot; and

~~determine to modify~~ modifying the schedule to specify the selected at least one piece of pre-broadcast content in the at least one slot.

29. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein the schedule includes at least one slot specifying a scheduled time and a piece of pre-broadcast content, wherein ~~the memory stores executable instructions that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus is further caused to further perform the following:~~

~~receiving~~ receive at least one slot of the schedule at the apparatus,
wherein ~~accessing at least one piece of pre-broadcast content comprises accessing the~~ at least one piece of pre-broadcast content is accessed in accordance with the at least one slot received at the apparatus.

30. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

determining to store ~~storing~~, in a memory of an apparatus, at least one piece of pre-broadcast content, the at least one piece of pre-broadcast content being stored before a scheduled time for broadcast of the same at least one piece of content by a content source, the scheduled time specified by a schedule;

determining to access ~~accessing~~ at least one piece of pre-broadcast content from the memory of the apparatus no sooner than the scheduled time for broadcast of the same at least one piece of content;

receiving live broadcast of the same at least one piece of content from the content source; and
determining to present ~~presenting~~ the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content consistent with the scheduled time for broadcast of the same at least one piece of content by the content source.

31. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 30 further comprising:

~~determining to synchronize~~ ~~synchronizing~~ the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content with the same at least one piece of content broadcast by the content source, wherein ~~presenting~~ the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content ~~comprises~~ ~~presenting is presented as~~ the synchronized at least one piece of pre-broadcast content.

32. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 30, wherein ~~storing at least one piece of pre-broadcast content comprises storing~~ at least one piece of pre-broadcast content ~~is~~ stored before the content source broadcasts the same at least one piece of content.

33. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 30 further comprising: receiving, at the apparatus, at least one piece of content maintained by a continuity server of a content source, wherein ~~storing at least one piece of pre-broadcast content comprises storing~~ the received at least one piece of content ~~is stored~~ as the at least one piece of pre-broadcast content.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 33 further comprising: processing at least one piece of content at the content source, and thereafter sending the processed at least one piece of content to the apparatus, wherein processing at least one piece of content comprises at least one of encoding or transcoding at least one piece of content,

wherein ~~receiving~~ the at least one piece of content ~~comprises receiving~~ is received as the processed at least one piece of content, and when the content source encodes the at least one piece of content, ~~decoding~~ the encoded at least one piece of content is decoded.

36. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 30, wherein the schedule also specifies at least one scheduled time for broadcast of at least one piece of live broadcast content by the content source, and wherein the method further comprises:

receiving, at the apparatus, at least one piece of live broadcast content when a current time matches the scheduled time for broadcast of the respective at least one piece of live broadcast content,

wherein ~~accessing~~ the at least one piece of pre-broadcast content ~~comprises~~ is accessed by accessing at least one of at least one piece of pre-broadcast content stored in the memory or at least one piece of live broadcast content received at the apparatus, and wherein ~~presenting~~ the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content ~~comprises~~ is presented by presenting at least one of the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content or the accessed at least one piece of live broadcast content.

37. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 30 further comprising:
determining to release ~~releasing~~ each piece of pre-broadcast content when a current time of the apparatus matches the scheduled time for broadcast of the same piece of content by the content source,
wherein ~~accessing at least one piece of pre-broadcast content comprises~~ accessing at least one released piece of pre-broadcast content is accessed.

38. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 37, wherein the content source broadcasts the same at least one piece of content when a current time of the content source matches the at least one scheduled time, and wherein the method further comprises:

~~determining to synchronize~~ synchronizing the current time of the apparatus with the current time of the content source.

39. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 37 further comprising:

~~determining to expire~~ expiring each released piece of pre-broadcast content when the current time is subsequent to the scheduled time; and

~~determining to maintain~~ maintaining, in the memory of the apparatus, at least one expired piece of pre-broadcast content.

40. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 37 further comprising:

~~determining to expire~~ expiring each released piece of pre-broadcast content when the current time is subsequent to the scheduled time; and

~~determining to delete~~ deleting, from the memory of the apparatus, at least one expired piece of pre-broadcast content.

41. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 40 further comprising:

~~determining to maintain~~ maintaining at least one expired piece of pre-broadcast content in the memory of the apparatus, and

wherein ~~deleting the~~ at least one expired piece of pre-broadcast content ~~comprises~~ is deleted by overwriting at least one expired piece of pre-broadcast content with at least one subsequent piece of pre-broadcast content.

42. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 30, wherein ~~storing the~~ at least one piece of pre-broadcast content ~~further comprises storing~~ is stored with the schedule.

43. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 42, wherein the schedule includes at least one slot specifying broadcast of a selectable piece of pre-broadcast content at a respective scheduled time, and wherein the method further comprises:

receiving a selection of at least one piece of pre-broadcast content for the at least one slot;

and

determining to modify ~~modifying~~ the schedule to specify the selected at least one piece of pre-broadcast content in the at least one slot.

44. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 30, wherein the schedule includes at least one slot specifying a scheduled time and a piece of pre-broadcast content, and wherein the method further comprises:

receiving at least one slot of the schedule at the apparatus,

wherein ~~accessing at least one piece of pre-broadcast content comprises accessing the~~ at least one piece of pre-broadcast content is accessed in accordance with the at least one slot received at the apparatus.

45. (Currently Amended) A ~~computer program product for providing broadcast content,~~ the computer program product comprising a non-transitory computer-readable storage medium carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, having computer-readable program code portions stored therein that in response to execution by a processor cause an apparatus to at least perform the following steps:

~~determining to store~~ storing, in a memory of the apparatus, at least one piece of pre-broadcast content, the at least one piece of pre-broadcast content being stored before a scheduled time for broadcast of the same at least one piece of content by a content source, the scheduled time specified by a schedule;

~~determining to access~~ accessing at least one piece of pre-broadcast content from the memory of the apparatus no sooner than the scheduled time for broadcast of the same at least one piece of content;

receiving live broadcast of the same at least one piece of content from the content source; and

~~determining to present~~ presenting the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content consistent with the scheduled time for broadcast of the same at least one piece of content by the content source.

46. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium ~~computer program product~~ according to Claim 45, wherein ~~the computer-readable storage medium has computer-readable program code portions stored therein that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus~~ is caused to further perform the following:

determining to synchronize ~~synchronizing~~ the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content with the same at least one piece of content broadcast by the content source,

wherein ~~presenting~~ the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content ~~comprises~~ presenting is presented as the synchronized at least one piece of pre-broadcast content.

47. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium ~~computer program product~~ according to Claim 45, wherein ~~storing at least one piece of pre-broadcast~~

~~content comprises storing the~~ at least one piece of pre-broadcast content is stored before the content source broadcasts the same at least one piece of content.

48. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium ~~computer program product~~ according to Claim 45, wherein ~~the computer-readable storage medium has computer-readable program code portions stored therein that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus~~ is caused to further perform the following:

receiving, at the apparatus, at least one piece of content maintained by a continuity server of a content source,

wherein ~~storing at least one piece of pre-broadcast content comprises storing~~ the received at least one piece of content is stored as the at least one piece of pre-broadcast content.

49. (Canceled)

50. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium ~~computer program product~~ according to Claim 45, wherein ~~receiving the~~ at least one piece of content ~~comprises~~ is received by receiving an encoded at least one piece of content and decoding the encoded at least one piece of content, the respective at least one piece of content having been at least one of encoded or transcoded at the content source.

51. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium ~~computer program product~~ according to Claim 45, wherein the schedule also specifies at least one scheduled time for broadcast of at least one piece of live broadcast content by the content source, and wherein ~~the wherein the computer-readable storage medium has computer-readable program~~

~~code portions stored therein that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus~~ is caused to further perform the following:

receiving, at the apparatus, at least one piece of live broadcast content when a current time matches the scheduled time for broadcast of the respective at least one piece of live broadcast content, and

wherein ~~accessing the~~ at least one piece of pre-broadcast content ~~comprises~~ is accessed by accessing at least one of at least one piece of pre-broadcast content stored in the memory or at least one piece of live broadcast content received at the apparatus, and wherein ~~presenting the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content comprises~~ is presented by presenting at least one of the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content or the accessed at least one piece of live broadcast content.

52. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium ~~computer program product~~ according to Claim 45, wherein ~~the computer-readable storage medium has computer-readable program code portions stored therein that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus~~ is caused to further perform the following:

determining to release releasing each piece of pre-broadcast content when a current time of the apparatus matches the scheduled time for broadcast of the same piece of content by the content source,

wherein ~~accessing at least one piece of pre-broadcast content comprises~~ accessing at least one released piece of pre-broadcast content is accessed.

53. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium ~~computer program product~~ according to Claim 52, wherein the content source broadcasts the same at least

one piece of content when a current time of the content source matches the at least one scheduled time, and wherein ~~the computer-readable storage medium has computer-readable program code portions stored therein that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus is~~ caused to further perform ~~the following~~:

determining to synchronize ~~synchronizing~~ the current time of the apparatus with the current time of the content source.

54. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium ~~computer program product~~ according to Claim 52, wherein ~~the computer-readable storage medium has computer-readable program code portions stored therein that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus is~~ caused to further perform ~~the following~~:

determining to expire ~~expiring~~ each released piece of pre-broadcast content when the current time is subsequent to the scheduled time; and

determining to maintain ~~maintaining~~, in the memory of the apparatus, at least one expired piece of pre-broadcast content.

55. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium ~~computer program product~~ according to Claim 52, wherein ~~the computer-readable storage medium has computer-readable program code portions stored therein that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus is~~ caused to further perform ~~the following~~:

determining to expire ~~expiring~~ each released piece of pre-broadcast content when the current time is subsequent to the scheduled time; and

determining to delete ~~deleting~~, from the memory of the apparatus, at least one expired piece of pre-broadcast content.

56. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium ~~computer program product~~ according to Claim 55, wherein ~~the computer-readable storage medium has computer-readable program code portions stored therein that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus~~ is caused to further perform ~~the following~~:

determining to maintain ~~maintaining~~ at least one expired piece of pre-broadcast content in the memory of the apparatus, and

wherein ~~deleting the~~ at least one expired piece of pre-broadcast content ~~comprises~~ is deleted by overwriting at least one expired piece of pre-broadcast content with at least one subsequent piece of pre-broadcast content.

57. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium ~~computer program product~~ according to Claim 45, wherein ~~storing the~~ at least one piece of pre-broadcast content further ~~comprises storing~~ is stored with the schedule.

58. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium ~~computer program product~~ according to Claim 57, wherein the schedule includes at least one slot specifying broadcast of a selectable piece of pre-broadcast content at a respective scheduled time, and wherein ~~the computer-readable storage medium has computer-readable program code portions stored therein that in response to execution by the processor cause the apparatus~~ is caused to further perform ~~the following~~:

receiving a selection of at least one piece of pre-broadcast content for the at least one slot;
and

determining to modify ~~modifying~~ the schedule to specify the selected at least one piece of pre-broadcast content in the at least one slot.

59. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable storage medium ~~computer program-product~~ according to Claim 45, wherein the schedule includes at least one slot specifying a scheduled time and a piece of pre-broadcast content, and wherein ~~the computer-readable storage medium has computer-readable program code portions stored therein that in response to execution by the processor cause~~ the apparatus is caused to further perform the following:

receiving at least one slot of the schedule at the apparatus,

wherein ~~accessing at least one piece of pre-broadcast content comprises accessing the~~ at least one piece of pre-broadcast content is accessed in accordance with the at least one slot received at the apparatus.

60. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a content source comprising a continuity server configured to maintain at least one piece of content and a schedule, wherein the schedule specifies at least one scheduled time for broadcast of the at least one piece of content by the content source, and wherein the content source is configured to broadcast the at least one piece of content in accordance with the schedule; and

a terminal configured to store, in a memory, at least one piece of pre-broadcast content comprising the same at least one piece of content maintained by the continuity server, the terminal being configured to store the at least one piece of pre-broadcast content before the scheduled time for broadcast of the same at least one piece of content, wherein the terminal is configured to access the at least one piece of pre-broadcast content from the memory no sooner than the scheduled time for broadcast of the same at least one piece of content, receive live broadcast of the same at least one piece of content from the content

source, and thereafter present the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content consistent with the scheduled time for broadcast of the same at least one piece of content by the content source.

61. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 60, wherein the terminal is configured to synchronize the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content with the same at least one piece of content broadcast by the content source before presenting the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content, and wherein the terminal is configured to present the synchronized at least one piece of pre-broadcast content.

62. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 60, wherein the terminal is configured to store the at least one piece of pre-broadcast content before the content source broadcasts the same at least one piece of content.

63. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 60, wherein the content source is configured to send, to the terminal, the at least one piece of content maintained by the continuity server, and wherein the terminal is configured to receive and store the received at least one piece of content as the at least one piece of pre-broadcast content.

64. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 63, wherein the content source is configured to at least one of encode or transcode the at least one piece of content and the schedule before sending the at least one piece of content and the schedule to the terminal, and wherein when the content source encodes the at least one piece of content, the terminal is

configured to receive the encoded at least one piece of content, and thereafter decode the encoded at least one piece of content.

65. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 60, wherein the schedule maintained by the continuity server also specifies at least one scheduled time for broadcast of at least one piece of live broadcast content by the content source, wherein the terminal is configured to receive at least one piece of live broadcast content when a current time matches the scheduled time for broadcast of the respective at least one piece of live broadcast content, wherein the terminal is configured to access at least one of at least one piece of pre-broadcast content stored by the terminal and at least one piece of live broadcast content received by the terminal, and wherein the terminal is configured to present at least one of the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content or the accessed at least one piece of live broadcast content.

66. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 60, wherein the terminal is configured to release each piece of pre-broadcast content when a current time of the terminal matches the scheduled time for broadcast of the same piece of content by the content source, and wherein the terminal is configured to access at least one released piece of pre-broadcast content.

67. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 66, wherein the content source is configured to broadcast the at least one piece of content when a current time of the content source matches the at least one scheduled time, and wherein the terminal is also configured to synchronize the current time of the terminal with the current time of the content source.

68. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 66, wherein the terminal is also configured to expire each released piece of pre-broadcast content when the current time is subsequent to the scheduled time, and wherein the terminal is configured to maintain, in the memory, at least one expired piece of pre-broadcast content.

69. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 66, wherein the terminal is also configured to expire each released piece of pre-broadcast content when the current time is subsequent to the scheduled time, and wherein the terminal is configured to delete, from the memory, at least one expired piece of pre-broadcast content.

70. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 69, wherein the terminal is configured to maintain at least one expired piece of pre-broadcast content in the memory of the terminal, and wherein the terminal is configured to overwrite at least one expired piece of pre-broadcast content with at least one subsequent piece of pre-broadcast content.

71. (Previously Presented) A system according to Claim 60, wherein the terminal is also configured to store a schedule comprising the same schedule maintained by the continuity server.

72. - 73. (Canceled)

74. (New) A method according to Claim 30, further comprising:

determining to combine the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content with the received live broadcast of the same at least one piece of content; and
determining to present the combined content consistent with the scheduled time.

75. (New) A method according to Claim 30, further comprising:

determining to selectively present the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content, the received live broadcast of the same at least one piece of content, or a combination thereof consistent with the scheduled time.

76. (New) A method according to Claim 75, wherein the accessed at least one piece of pre-broadcast content is presented at a beginning of a time slot in the schedule, and then the received live broadcast of the same at least one piece of content is presented.

77. (New) A method according to Claim 30, wherein the scheduled time is outside of a prime time.